5. Regional and sub-regional offices of wildlife preservation have been set up mostly at the main export centres of the country to prevent smuggling of wildlife products.

6. Interdepartmental co-ordination has been enhanced with other enforcement organisation like police, BSF, customs, ITBP, coast guard etc. Training programme on enforcement of Wildlife (Protection) Act is also conducted.

7. Staff in national parks and sanctuaries are being provided modern arms, wireless equipments and communication facilities to check poaching in the national parks and sanctuaries.

8. Analogous to the Centre, the states have also been asked to set up co-ordination Committee of all enforcement agencies so that there is effective co-operation to check poaching and control of illegal trade.

Effect of displacement of Tribals on the Forests

†426. SHRI JANESHWAR MISRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that considerable loss is being caused to the forests/wild animals on account of the tribals being displaced from forests and their entry into the sanctuaries being restricted under Forest (Conservation) Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government would enact any alternative law to ensure that inter-dependence between the forests and the inhabitants of forests is revived?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Legislation of any alternative law to revive the inter-dependence between the forest and the inhabitants of forest is not stipulated. The objective is being achieved through implementation of Joint Forest Management and Eco Development programmes through participatory management.

Increasing Water, Air and Noise Pollution

427. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the menace of water, air and noise pollution is increasing in India, particularly in Delhi, day by day; and

(b) what effective steps Government are taking to check such increase in pollution?

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The steps taken by the Government for prevention and control of pollution include the following:-

- Effluent and emission standards have been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to check air, water and noise pollution.
- industries have been directed to install necessary pollution control equipment and action is taken against the defaulting units.
- A scheme under the World Bank for setting up Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) in clusters of small scale industrial units has been implemented in several parts of the country.
- Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 1994 is in force governing environmental appraisal of 29 specified categories of developmental projects.
- Environmental Guidelines have been evolved for sitting of industries.
- National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) has been launched to check water pollution in the major rivers of the country.
- Emission standards for vehicles have been notified under the Motor Vehicles Act. Vehicular fuel quality has also been upgraded.
- Ambient noise standards in respect of industrial, commercial, residential areas and silence zone have been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- An Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority has been set up for the National Capital Region for protecting and improving the environment.
- All the Hot Mix Plants have been closed down in Delhi.
- A number of hazardous industries have been closed down in Delhi.
- Environment Action Plan for Mumbai has been prepared and is being implemented by the State Government of Maharashtra.

New norms for environmental pollution

428. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the new norms for environmental pollution have been drafted and the same contain too stringent rules which would be unacceptable to the operators; and

(b) what are Government's plans in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The norms for control of environmental pollution are prescribed by the Government keeping in view the